

PHARMACY BOARD[657]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rule making related to military spouse licensure and providing an opportunity for public comment

The Board of Pharmacy hereby proposes to amend Chapter 33, “Military Service and Veteran Reciprocity,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 147.76.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, 2019 Iowa Acts, House File 288, section 4.

Purpose and Summary

During the 2019 Legislative Session, a change was made to the Iowa Code to require agencies to establish procedures to expedite the licensing of an individual who is licensed in a similar profession or occupation in another state and who is the spouse of an active duty member of the military forces of the United States. These proposed amendments implement this change.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Board for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on June 25, 2019. Comments should be directed to:

Sue Mears
Board of Pharmacy
400 S.W. 8th Street, Suite E
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Email: sue.mears@iowa.gov

Public Hearing

No public hearing is scheduled at this time. As provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b,” an oral presentation regarding this rule making may be demanded by 25 interested persons, a governmental subdivision, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, an agency, or an association having 25 or more members.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** definition of “Spouse” in rule **657—33.1(85GA,ch1116)**:

“Spouse” means a spouse of an active duty member of the military forces of the United States.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 657—33.3(85GA,ch1116) as follows:

657—33.3(85GA,ch1116) Veteran or spouse licensure or registration. A veteran or spouse with an unrestricted pharmacist license in another jurisdiction may apply for pharmacist licensure in Iowa by license ~~transfer/reciprocity~~ transfer pursuant to rule 657—2.9(147,155A) and this chapter. A veteran or spouse must pass any required examinations to be eligible for pharmacist licensure by license ~~transfer/reciprocity~~ transfer. A veteran or spouse may submit an application for pharmacist-intern registration pursuant to 657—Chapter 4 and this chapter. A veteran or spouse may submit an application for technician registration pursuant to 657—Chapter 3 and this chapter. A veteran or spouse may submit an application for pharmacy support person registration pursuant to 657—Chapter 5 and this chapter.

33.3(1) Priority application status. A fully completed application for licensure or registration submitted by a veteran or spouse under this chapter shall be given priority status and shall be expedited.

33.3(2) Application requirements. Such an application shall contain all of the information required of all applicants for licensure or registration who hold unrestricted licenses or registrations in other jurisdictions and who are applying for licensure or registration, including, but not limited to, completion of all required forms, payment of applicable fees, disclosure of criminal or disciplinary history, and, if applicable, a criminal history background check. In addition, the applicant shall provide such documentation as is reasonably needed to verify the applicant's status as a veteran under Iowa Code section 35.1(2) or as a spouse of an active duty member of the military forces of the United States.

33.3(3) Equivalency determination. Upon receipt of a fully completed application for licensure or registration, the board shall promptly determine if the requirements for licensure or registration of the jurisdiction where the veteran or spouse is licensed or registered are substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure or registration in Iowa. The board may consider the following factors in determining substantial equivalence: scope of practice, education and coursework, degree requirements, and ~~post-graduate~~ postgraduate experiences.

33.3(4) Licensure or registration approval. The board shall promptly grant a license or registration, as appropriate, to the veteran or spouse if the ~~veteran applicant~~ is licensed or registered in another jurisdiction whose licensure or registration requirements are substantially equivalent to those required in Iowa, unless the applicant is ineligible for licensure or registration based on other grounds, for example, the applicant's disciplinary or criminal background.

33.3(5) Notification of additional requirements and provisional licensure or registration. If the board determines that the veteran or spouse is licensed or registered in another jurisdiction whose licensure or registration requirements are not substantially equivalent to those required in Iowa, the board shall promptly inform the ~~veteran applicant~~ of the additional experience, education, or examinations required for licensure or registration in Iowa. Unless the applicant is ineligible for licensure or registration based on other grounds, such as disciplinary or criminal background, the following shall apply:

a. If a ~~veteran~~ the applicant has not passed the required examination(s) for licensure or registration, the applicant may request that the application be placed in pending status. The board may issue a provisional 90-day license in order for a pharmacist who has applied for license transfer pursuant to

rule 657—2.9(147,155A) to take and pass the multistate pharmacy jurisprudence examination (MPJE),
Iowa Edition.

b. to d. No change.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 657—33.4(85GA,ch1116) as follows:

657—33.4(85GA,ch1116) Request for contested case. A military service applicant or a veteran or spouse who is aggrieved by the board's decision to deny all or part of the military service credit application, a request for a license ~~transfer/reciprocal license transfer~~, a request for a registration, or a request for provisional license or registration, or is aggrieved by the terms under which a provisional license or registration will be granted, may request a contested case (administrative hearing) and may participate in a contested case by telephone. A request for a contested case shall be made within 30 days of issuance of the board's decision pursuant to 657—subrule ~~35.26(1)~~ 35.30(1). There shall be no fees or costs assessed against the military service applicant, veteran or spouse in connection with a contested case conducted pursuant to this chapter.